

late delegates in assembly) to gain the ascendancy for a certain party at the ensuing election. The chief engines for this purpose are what is called the religious bill, and the acts passed for the encouragement of learning.

That the general assembly should at length have taken up the great concerns of religion, after being authorized and enjoined thereto by so large a majority as forty one to eighteen of the venerable founders and framers of the CONSTITUTION of this state, is not to be wondered at. It hath been rather a matter of wonder to many, that a business so essentially connected with the best interests of the state, should have been so long delayed; or that, when once taken up, it had not been carried into immediate execution; for which the legislature would rather have merited thanks than blame. But when they have submitted the whole to the sense of the public, in order to be guided by the instructions which they may receive from their constituents, surely they can merit no blame.

But it is suggested that particular favours and benefits are intended by this bill to those of the episcopal persuasion, above all others; and that it may lead to their final establishment, as under the former government. It is almost impossible to answer such improbable and absurd suggestions as these. Does any thing like a preference, or the establishment of any one persuasion above another, appear on the face of the bill? Is not such establishment known to be directly repugnant to the constitution of the state in every principle? Or were such an establishment possible in favour of any religious persuasion, the danger is not from the members of the episcopal church, but those of another denomination, who are known to be of the most intolerant principles, and still seeking, by every possible means, to exalt their own party, and to dictate and domineer in all matters that concern either religion, learning, or government. Hence proceeds their opposition to the colleges, or university of this state; which, because they cannot wholly engross under their own direction, they wish to starve or destroy. No other reason of their opposition can easily be imagined; for certainly nothing was ever devised more liberal and catholic than those seminaries are. Equal privileges and advantages are secured to all religious denominations and persuasions. The public benefit hoped from them is alike for all ranks and orders of men, high and low, rich and poor!

Upon this plan, WASHINGTON COLLEGE, on the eastern shore, was founded, and hath for several years flourished, highly acceptable to the community in general, and honoured with the special countenance and unanimous approbation of the legislature. If any thing more liberal and catholic than this seminary could have been devised in literature, it would have been when the western shore college came to be founded; the plan of which, at the desire of sundry respectable members of the general assembly, was drawn up by three clergymen of known abilities and different religious persuasions, viz. JOHN CARROLL, WILLIAM SMITH, and PATRICK ALLISON, doctors in divinity. They were unanimous in their draught of the bill, and subscribed an agreement to carry it into execution, as it was laid before the general assembly; and their names were accordingly inserted in the body of the law as principal agents for soliciting subscriptions and opening the seminary. It was, therefore, certainly the duty of each of the gentlemen, after such a solemn engagement, to do every thing in his power for promoting so good a work, in discharge of the sacred trust reposed in him by the legislature.

Why the conduct of the latter of these gentlemen (viz. Dr. Allison) should have been directly the reverse of this engagement; and why he should be said to have promoted instructions to the general assembly against giving any public assistance to these infant seminaries, may require some explanation. Certainly it is not because either he, or his friends and partisans have any the least objection to a public support for colleges, when under their own direction. Those of his denomination have from the beginning had the direction of almost all the various public seminaries of learning to the northward of Pennsylvania. These in general have been largely endowed, and continue to be supported and protected by the different states in which they are founded. The very last public address, which we have seen from the governor of the Massachusetts state, has the following paragraph, which well merits the most serious attention of every free citizen of this state, viz.

"Whereas the preservation of the rights and liberties of the people depends upon a due care to diffuse wisdom and knowledge as well as piety, and to this end that education may pervade through, and extend to, every part of our land; I warmly recommend to all good citizens, as they would approve themselves worthy of that character, that they deeply impress on their own mind, the great importance of an early attention to the rising generation—and for this important purpose that they liberally provide for the public education of YOUTH, always

"A very capital part of the abuse of those writers: both of late fallen to the share of a gentleman who was once in considerable favour with their party, namely that eminent statesman and approved patriot, S. L. CH. E. Esq; to whose great senatorial abilities and indefatigable labours in assembly, even to the neglect of his own private fortune for a number of years past, Maryland stands highly indebted for many of her best laws and wisest political regulations. But he has the magnanimity to persevere, and to despise the opposition of a party and faction, from which at present he has little reason to expect either forgiveness or favour. But what has Mr. M. done that he should come in for a share of abuse from such a quarter? 'Tis true, being a law member, he is one of those from whom Mr. Ch. E. often derives very ready and cordial assistance in committees, and in framing bills, &c. But then he never forgets his constituents. Scarce a day passes in the house in which he has not some motion in favour of 'the good town, the great commercial town of BALTIMORE!' And should opposition arise, HONEST DAVID will lift his voice like a trumpet, and shake the pigmy opponent to nothing. To him the town of Baltimore owes the large grant out of the ordinary and retailers licenses for the night watch and erection of lamps, and every law made for that town during the last session, in which he had the assistance of Mr. Ch. E. whenever required; while his colleague Mr. E. was often sick, or absent on every material occasion. But John is a Presbyterian, and David is said to be something of an episcopalian.

bearing in mind a part of the constitution which does honour to our country, and makes it their duty to cherish the interests of LITERATURE and the SCIENCES, and all seminaries of them, especially the UNIVERSITY of CAMBRIDGE, public schools, &c. in the towns. Thus, by building on the broad foundation which our pious ancestors laid, education being supported under the auspices of government, &c. the sons of the poor and the rich jointly partaking of its advantages, those principles of equality which are essential to the republican form of our government, will thereby be effectually and perpetually preferred."

The college of Philadelphia was the only seminary of considerable note to the northward of Maryland which had subsisted for a number of years without any public assistance from the state; but no sooner had the aforesaid party or denomination got possession of it, by a most iniquitous violation of its CHARTER and robbery of its funds, than they procured a still further support from the state, amounting (it is said) to near one hundred thousand pounds, out of the confiscated property belonging to the commonwealth.

It is to be presumed, then, that if men of this stamp were once the majority, or could by their arts of alarm and sewing dissensions among their neighbours of other persuasions or denominations, engross the direction of all our public seminaries to the southward, as they have generally to the northward, we should hear no more of private seminaries and subscriptions set on foot in every quarter to drain those public ones of their support, or starve them (if possible) in their infancy; nor should we hear the least objection to the most liberal endowment of them at the general cost of the state; when as the present endowment is in the most early manner to the people, in lieu of an old fund, provided for the foundation of a college or public seminary before the war, with some additions from new funds, which cannot operate as a burden upon any person; as no man is obliged to contribute to the funds without his own free consent.

It is hoped, then, that the good people of Maryland will ever be sensible of the great benefit to be derived from supporting their public seminaries in learning on their present enlarged and broad foundation. For should ever any one or more states in the union, or any one party, or juncture of parties, engross all the learning of America under their own direction, they would soon become the ruling power, and every other would appear little and insignificant before them.

Of the truth of this, the party we are now speaking of have been long aware; and to this end have their politics been steadily directed, viz. to engross, where they can, the direction of public schools and seminaries of learning; and for every family, by its circumstances ever so narrow, to make, what they call, A MAN of at least ONE SON, by educating him in some of the liberal professions, for the assistance and advancement of the rest of the family, and taking a lead in public measures. So far as this is done by fair and honest means, it is laudable and worthy of general imitation. But those who would be ready even to rob for such a purpose, would think all other means lawful. Misrepresentation, slander, falsehood, downright lying—these would appear but venial faults, nay might pass even as justifiable expedients in the good cause!

It is hoped, then, that the views and principles of different parties will be well weighed at the approaching election of delegates in assembly, and that no man will be reticulated a vote merely because he is known to be a friend to religion and learning upon the most equal and liberal footing. Men of these principles are an honour to any country, and will promote its trust prosperity and glory; while men of narrow and intolerant spirits, bent only on the aggrandizement of their own party, are disgraceful and ruinous to every community upon earth.

"That the above censure is not too harsh, in respect to the violation of the charter of the college of Philadelphia, and the seizure of its funds by the presbyterians, will appear by the following extract from a public address of the majority of the assembly of Pennsylvania, upon the session of the minority in September 1784, which is as follows, viz.

"All we shall say upon the subject of the charter of the COLLEGE, ACADEMY, and CHARITABLE SCHOOL of the city of Philadelphia to its original and just owners is, that it was agreed to after the most mature deliberation, and after bearing counsel on both sides. We conceive the safety of all incorporated and even personal property in Pennsylvania, to depend upon the successful issue of that suit. The law for taking away the OLD CHARTER of the COLLEGE, we discovered to be equally repugnant to COMMON JUSTICE, and to the forty fifth section of the CONSTITUTION."

Assembly chamber, September 29, 1784. Signed in behalf and by order of the majority, GEORGE GRAY, Speaker.

"The THEATRE in this City, under the Direction of Messieurs HALLAM and HENRY, will be opened early in next Week.

September 28, 1785. On Friday the 7th of October, at four o'clock, will be sold, at Mr. George Mann's, for ready cash, or short credit,

A NUMBER of very likely and valuable young negroes of both sexes. *Mason Brown*

Commissioner's office of army accounts, Annapolis, September 28, 1785.

HAVING long since taken every measure in my power to inform the officers and soldiers of the Maryland line, who have not received their arrears from the United States, that I should close the office for adjusting their claims in this state the first day of October, I find many have neglected to apply. Attention to their interest alone induces me to prolong the period until the tenth day of next November, after which no consideration whatever will render it possible to take notice of their demands; as the papers will then be sent to the commissioner for settling with the army, near congress, and should this intimation be neglected, the subscriber will hold himself fully justified from any difficulty of expense that may be the consequence.

JOHN WHITE, commissioner.

JUST IMPORTED. In the ESSEX and SAMUEL, captain JAMES MITCHELL, from London, and will be sold by the subscriber, at his store near the Dock, on the lowest terms, for cash or good bills of exchange on London,

A LARGE assortment of GOODS suitable to the season, amongst which are a great choice of the following articles, viz.

Superfine and fine broad-clothes, forest ditto, cassimere, milled and double milled drabs, 6, 7 and 8 quarters coatings, drab kersey, Devonshire ditto, German serges, duffins, learnoughts, Welsh plains, knapped and plain cottons, half-thicks, flannels, baize, striped linseys, mixed frize, 8, 9 and 10 quarters blankets, match coat ditto, 7 and 8 quarters coverlets, 8, 9 and 10 quarters rugs, 7 8ths and yard wide Irish linens, Irish and fleck dowlas, 3, 4 and 5 quarters checks, table clothes, chintzes, calicos, stamp'd cottons, corduroys, satin beavers, velvets, hair shags, silk and worsted hosiery, tammies, durants, camlets, blue and scarlet cardinals, jeans and lean twine, with a number of other goods not enumerated.

He likewise keeps all kinds of wet goods, which he sells, wholesale and retail, on the lowest terms, for cash. JAMES MACKUBIN.

September 20, 1785.

JUST IMPORTED. In the ship ESSEX and SAMUEL, from London, and to be sold on the most reasonable terms by Ridgeley and Evans, at their store near the head of the Dock, for cash, or good bills of exchange on London,

A LARGE assortment of GOODS suitable to the season, amongst which are,

Superfine, second, and coarse broad clothes, double milled drabs, Devonshire kerseys, Bath coatings, bearkins, hunters plains, German serges, green and blue frizes, duffins, half-thicks, pennilions, learnought, negro cottons, flannels, linseys, green baize, ready made great coats and sea jackets, green, blue, and mottled rugs, rose and striped blankets, durants, tammies, figured fluffs, shalloons, camlets and camleteers, silk and stuff quilted petticoats, cotton corduroys, velvets and thickets, womens and girls scarlet cardinals and cloaks, mens, boys, and womens threag, cotton, and worsted hose, mens milled yarn ditto and gloves, sailors caps, 7 8ths and yard wide Irish linens, brown and white Irish and Russia sherings, brown holland, housewife linens, 3 quarters and 7 8ths Irish and loomed dowlas, crinabrigs, table clothes, diapers, 3 quarters and 7 8ths striped bedtickings, red bunts, striped linens and cotton cloaks, womens, maids, and girls stays, mens and boys shoes, womens, maids, and girls stuff, Morocco, and black leather shoes and pumps, mens, youths, and boys fashionable hats, stationary, white and coloured threads, calicos and chintzes, cambricks and lawns, black and white lace, rich black satin, fashionable plain luteerings, modes, farcenets, persians, ribands, gauzes, spring lawn, gauze and muslin aprons, gauze handkerchiefs, muslin, gloves and mits, powder and shot, mustard, pewter, teans, lean and sail twine, 2 inch white rope, red cords and leading lines, single refined loaf sugar, hyton tea, Anderson's pills, Stoughton's bitters, elegant brass plate and dogs, shovels and tongs, copper and newmake iron tea kettles, bell metal mortars and pestles, brass candlesticks, an assortment of cutlery, with various other articles not enumerated.

Annapolis, September 25, 1785.

THE members of the CINCINNATI in this state are hereby informed, that the meeting stands adjourned to the 17th of October next.

JOHN KILTY, secretary.

Annapolis, September 20, 1785.

THE subscriber takes this method to inform all those that are indebted to him on open account to the end of the year 1784 or by note, to come and settle them.

He likewise would wish to inform his customers that he has at his store by wholesale, good Jamaica spirit, West-India and New-England rum, and the following articles by retail, Lisbon and T. neriff wine, loaf and brown mul-cava sugar, molasses, coffee, chocolate, bolica tea, candles, soap, Liverpool and Lisbon salt, an assortment of earthen ware, and many other articles too tedious to mention.

ABSALOM RIDGELY.

Annapolis, September 27, 1785.

THE subscriber intends to petition the next general assembly to confirm and make void a certain instrument of writing, purporting to be the last will and testament of his late father.

BEALE HAMMOND.

September 20, 1785.

NOTICE is hereby given, that we intend presenting a petition to the next general assembly of this state, to empower us to make sale of certain lands being in the counties of Washington, Frederick, Prince-George's, and Charles, the property of the heirs of Dr. Adam Thompson, deceased.

JOHN HAWKINS,

LEBURN WILLIAMS.

THERE is at the plantation of Robert David, taken up as a stray, a dark brindie COW, she is marked with a crop in the right ear, and a slit in the left. The owner may have her again on proving property and paying charges.

Annapolis, September 15, 1785.

MR. ROUSSELL,

Intending to leave the city this week, the term of his engagement here having expired,

BEGS leave to return to his friends and the public his warmest acknowledgments for the many favours conferred on him, and to acquaint them he means to return in the ensuing spring, when he hopes for a continuance of that patronage he has hitherto so happily experienced, and of which he shall ever retain the most grateful remembrance.

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